

STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 17

Theater Showing Erotic Performances Receives \$25,000 in Taxpayer Stimulus Funds

- The Nation Endowment for the Arts (NEA) will be allotting \$25,000 to CounterPULSE, a theater located in San Francisco, CA. Among others, the theater produces a show called “Perverts Put Out,” described by the theater as a “long-running pansexual performance series.”
- In a letter to Congressman Cliff Stearns of Florida, who expressed concerns with the distribution of stimulus funds for CounterPULSE and other questionable recipients, the NEA wrote, “The Grants can only be used to provide salary support for staff positions or fees for previously-engaged artists and/or contractual personnel that are critical to an organization's artistic mission and in jeopardy of being eliminated as a result of the current economic climate.” In other words, taxpayer dollars are being spent for the production costs of shows like “Perverts Put Out.” That this show deserves any kind of funding is for the critics to decide. That it deserves federal funds is for the American taxpayer to decide.
- Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, tax dollars would not be spent to help produce erotic theater. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit:
<http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/>
- **Sources:** http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/NEA-gives-money-to-_pervs_-for-twisted-fun-8088479-52911637.html
<http://www.counterpulse.org>

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip's website: <http://republicanwhip.house.gov/blog/wwindex.html>

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus, and a video of Members discussing specific examples.